DC

FROM THE PAGES OF 52 AND COUNTDOWN COMES...

BLACK ADAM

4
OF 6
JAN '08

TOMASI
MAHNKE
ALAMY

THE HORROR...

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SIVANA! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!?

I'M DOING WHAT WE'RE ALL DOING.

I'M TAKING A *MEMENTO*, MY NEFARIOUS FRIEND-- A SOUVENIR TO REMEMBER YOU BY.

BILLY! I BEG YOU-- STOP--

WE ALL NEED OUR POUND OF FLESH, ADAM.

REAL SHAME WE ALL JUST COULDN'T GET ALONG, ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY.

OSIRIS! PLEASE--

I'M SURE *THIS* CAN'T HURT AS MUCH AS BEING EATEN ALIVE.

CAN IT?

ISIS! HELP ME--YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN MAKE THEM STOP!

STOP? WHY WOULD I MAKE THEM STOP?

AND NOW, MY LOVE, YOUR HEAD.

AAAA

BLACK ADAM

THE DARK AGE

PART FOUR

PETER J. TOMASI: STORY AND WORDS - DOUG MAHNKE: PENCILLER
CHRISTIAN ALAMY: INKER - NATHAN EYRING: COLORIST - NICK J. NAPOLITANO: LETTERER
HARVEY RICHARDS: ASSISTANT EDITOR - MICHAEL SIGLAIN: EDITOR - COVER BY DOUG MAHNKE

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SOME PEOPLE ARE LUCKY.

THEY BECOME WHO THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO BE.

DO WHAT THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO DO.

ISIS.

I YEARN FOR THE DAY...

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JSA HEADQUARTERS.

TILL DEATH DO YOU PART...

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TAHOLAH, WASHINGTON.

OKAY, LET'S SEW PETEY UP. WE'LL GET HIM HOME TOMORROW.

MISTER BEARD'S GONNA LOVE HEARING THAT. HE'S CALLED TEN TIMES ALREADY ABOUT THE PICKUP TIME.

SAVE THE DOG.

THEN YOU WILL NEED TO SAVE ME.

FRANCIS ANIMAL SPITAL

WHAT DO *YOU* WANT FROM US?

P-PLEASE-- DON'T KILL ME--

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I HAVE GRIEVOUS WOUNDS. I *NEED* IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION.

AND JUST WHERE WOULD THESE *"WOUNDS"* BE EXACTLY?

ALL WILL BE CLEAR IN A MOMENT.

BUT FIRST, THERE ARE TWO THINGS YOU NEED TO BEAR IN MIND: NO ANESTHETIC, AND NO AUTHORITIES.

IT WILL NOT TAKE MUCH FOR ME TO WHISPER A SIMPLE WORD AND DESTROY ALL THAT YOU KNOW.

STEP BACK, SHUT YOUR EYES, AND MOVE TO THE FAR WALL.

ISIS.

KRAKOOOOOOM!

OMIGOD. WHAT ARE WE--

WE'RE GOING TO NEED A LOT OF BLOOD AND A HELLUVA LOT OF SURGICAL SUTURE.

I'D PREFER THAT YOU BOTH GET TO WORK RATHER THAN STAND THERE--

--AND LET ME DIE ON THIS *TABLE!*

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SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS.

THE TOWER OF DR. FATE.

ARRR!

UNNN.

I BELIEVE YOUR BELOVED HUSBAND...

FZZAK

...IS NOT HEEDING MY WORDS WITH ALL THESE CHANGES.

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ELSEWHERE.

YES. IT'S JUST COME THROUGH.

MUST WE BEGIN SEARCHING FOR ANOTHER CONTRACTOR WHO CAN PUT OUR RESOURCES TO BETTER USE?

OUR PATIENCE GROWS THIN, MISTER J. TETH-ADAM HAS MANAGED TO EVADE YOUR SPECIAL OPERATIVES, WHILE ALSO KILLING SEVERAL IN THE PROCESS.

5,000,000

NO. THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY.

TETH-ADAM IS SIMPLY PROVING TO BE A BIT MORE... *CAPABLE* THAN PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT.

MORE OPERATIVES ARE BEING BROUGHT IN, AND THE PAY SCALE FOR VALUABLE INFORMATION TO HELP LOCATE HIM WILL BE INCREASED.

AH, INCENTIVE. I DO HOPE THAT'S SOMETHING WE WILL NOT NEED TO INTRODUCE INTO OUR DEALINGS.

A VEILED *THREAT* ISN'T APPRECIATED AT THIS JUNCTURE.

BEEP BEEP

PLEASE HOLD. A CALL'S COMING IN FROM AN OPERATIVE.

YES.

FOLLOW UP WITH COMPLETE IMPUNITY. GOODBYE.

IT SEEMS THAT THE *AMMUNITION* YOU SUPPLIED US WITH IS WORKING NICELY.

WE'RE TRACKING TETH-ADAM AND WILL MOVE IN SOON. IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME.

OUR TIME. OUR MONEY. CALL US WITH GOOD NEWS.

CLICK

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ARRR--

WHAT--- WHERE---HOW LONG--

RELAX.

YOU'VE BEEN OUT FOR OVER TWO HOURS.

TWO HOURS?

AND I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WAITED TILL YOU LEFT TO POP OPEN ALL MY SUTURES, 'CAUSE WE'RE ALL *OUT* OF BLOOD.

WHOSE BLOOD?

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LUCKILY FOR YOU--AND US--YOU'RE AN *O POSITIVE.*

MY ASSISTANT AND I DID WHAT WE NEEDED TO DO.

WHY DID YOU NOT LET ME DIE--WHEN I SLIPPED INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS--IT WOULD HAVE BEEN ALL TOO EASY?

EASY?!?

YOUR *REPUTATION* PRECEDES YOU.

I *LOVE* THE TOWN I LIVE IN, AND I *LOVE* THE PEOPLE IN IT.

THE POSSIBILITY--HOWEVER SLIGHT--OF YOU WHISPERING THAT *MAGIC WORD* OF YOURS AFTER YOU SLIPPED INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS AND *DOING* WHAT *YOU* DO--

AND WHAT IS IT YOU *THINK* I DO, MADAM?

SHAME ON YOU FOR EVEN ASKING ME THAT.

I *WASN'T* TAKING A CHANCE THAT THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT PEOPLE WOULD PAY FOR MY PRESUMPTION AND RECKLESS BRAVURA.

I DID WHAT YOU ASKED.

THE LIVES YOU SNUFF OUT IN THE COMING DAYS, WEEKS, AND YEARS--IS *MY* BURDEN TO BEAR--IT'S WHAT I'M GOING TO HAVE TO LIVE WITH FOR THE DECISION I MADE IN THIS ROOM TODAY.

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NOW TAKE *THESE* AND PLEASE LEAVE.

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING OTHER THAN *RED?*

NO.

I WILL BE BORROWING YOUR VEHICLE.

AND NOT ALL IS AS BLACK AND WHITE AS YOU BELIEVE.

YET, STILL, I THANK YOU.

BOTH.

WE DON'T NEED OR WANT YOUR THANKS.

JUST GO.

NOW.

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SCALPEL. SUTURES. CATS. DOGS. RAIN.

ST FRANCIS ANIMAL HOSPITAL

TREES. HUNTERS. KILLERS. BLOOD.

GUNFIRE. PAIN. DESTRUCTION.

INNOCENTS. DEATH. NOT MY PROBLEM.

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CONFIRMED.

POSITIVE FOR *ISOTOPE TRACE.*

ADAM *WAS* HERE.

...SO YOU *SAVED* HIS LIFE AND YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHERE HE IS?!? THAT'S CRAP!

PLEASE-- I'M *TELLING* YOU THE TRUTH.

AND I'M TELLING YOU THAT YOU'RE GONNA BE TASTING YOUR PET PAL'S ARTERIAL SPRAY IN TEN SECONDS IF YOU DON'T--

YOU'RE WELCOME.

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JSA HEADQUARTERS.

ALL GROUP CHANNELS! A *GO LIGHT* IN SEATTLE!

REPEAT! I HAVE A CONFIRMED LIGHTNING SIGNATURE TRACK IN SEATTLE, WASHINGTON!

AAAAAH

NNOOOOOOO

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--URANIUM BULLETS. IN CASE WE MANAGED TO WOUND YOU AS TETH-ADAM, WE COULD TRACK YOU AND--

AND THIS OTHER MATERIAL THAT YOU SPOKE ABOUT THAT IS BEING DEVELOPED, WHERE DOES IT ORIGINATE FROM?

DON'T KNOW-- JUST THAT IT CAN KILL YOU, PENETRATE YOUR SKIN EVEN AS BLACK ADAM--

LOOK--I'M JUST A FINGER ON A TRIGGER-- DETAILED INFO LIKE THAT'S ON A NEED TO KNOW BASIS AND I--

NEED TO DIE.

NO--WAIT--THERE'S MORE--WE'VE TAPPED INTO SEVERAL HIGH SECURITY SATELLITE FEEDS--

--ONE OF 'EM IS THE JSA SATELLITE.

I AM LISTENING.

THE JSA--THEY'VE ALMOST PERFECTED THE ABILITY TO TRACK YOUR POWER SURGE AND--

TRACK THE LIGHTNING? REALLY?

THEN LET'S YOU AND I GO PAY IT A VISIT.

V-VISIT?

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BLACK ADAM WAS HERE?

YES.

YES, HE WAS...

...AND IF IT WASN'T FOR *HIM*...

...WE'D BE DEAD...

HE SAVED US.

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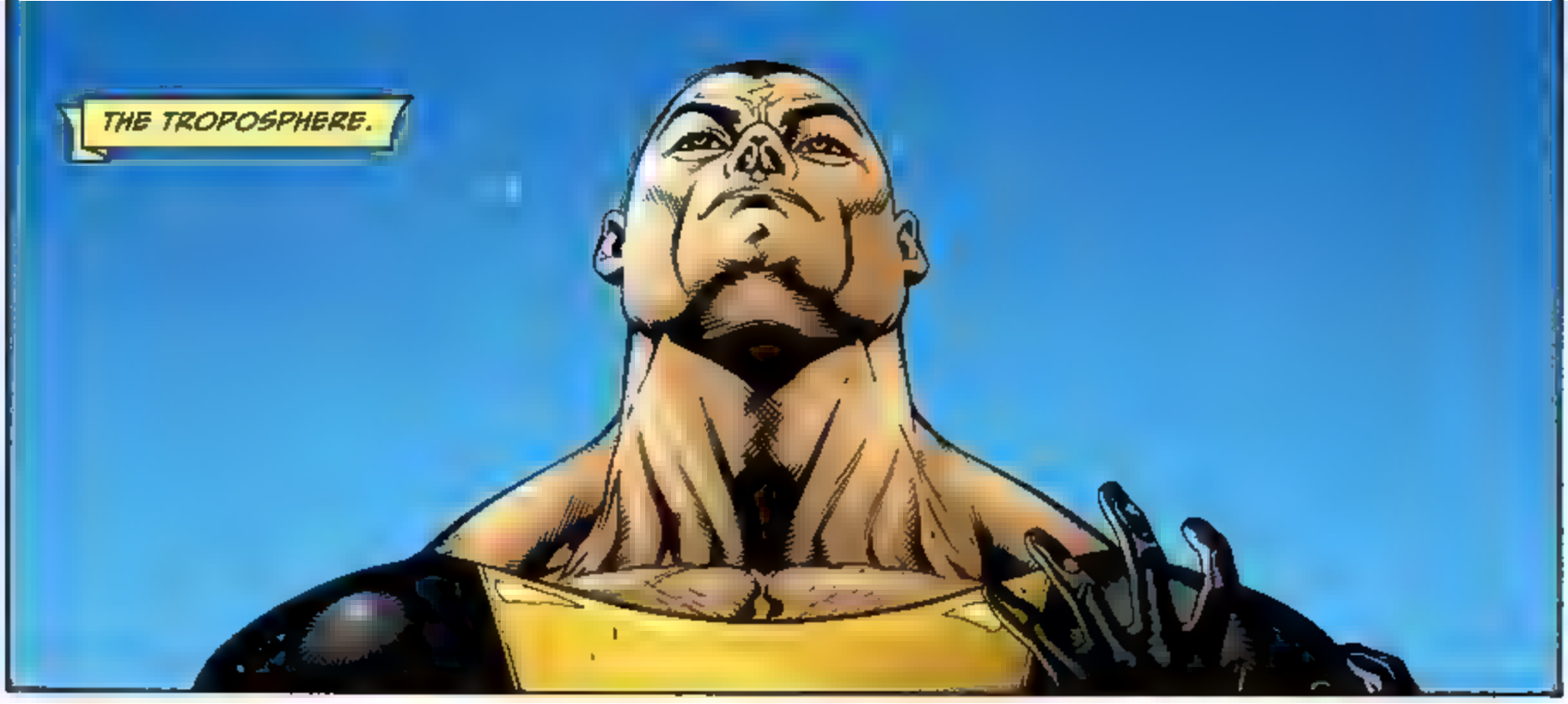

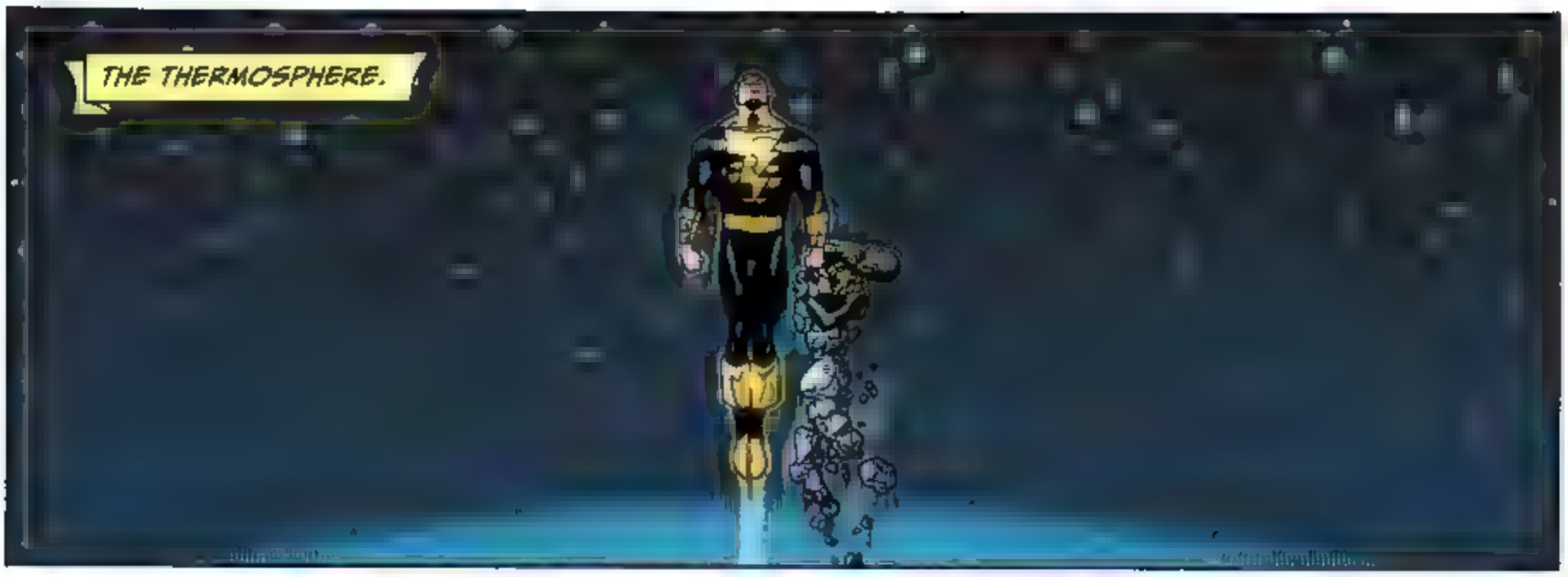

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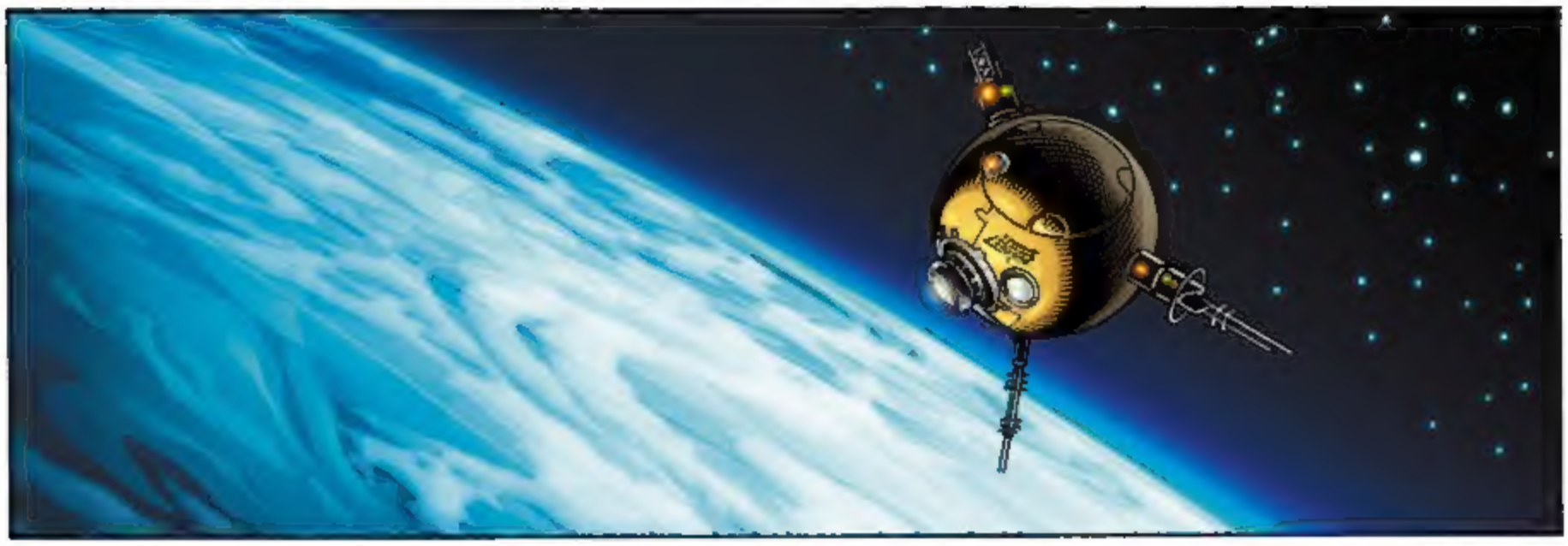

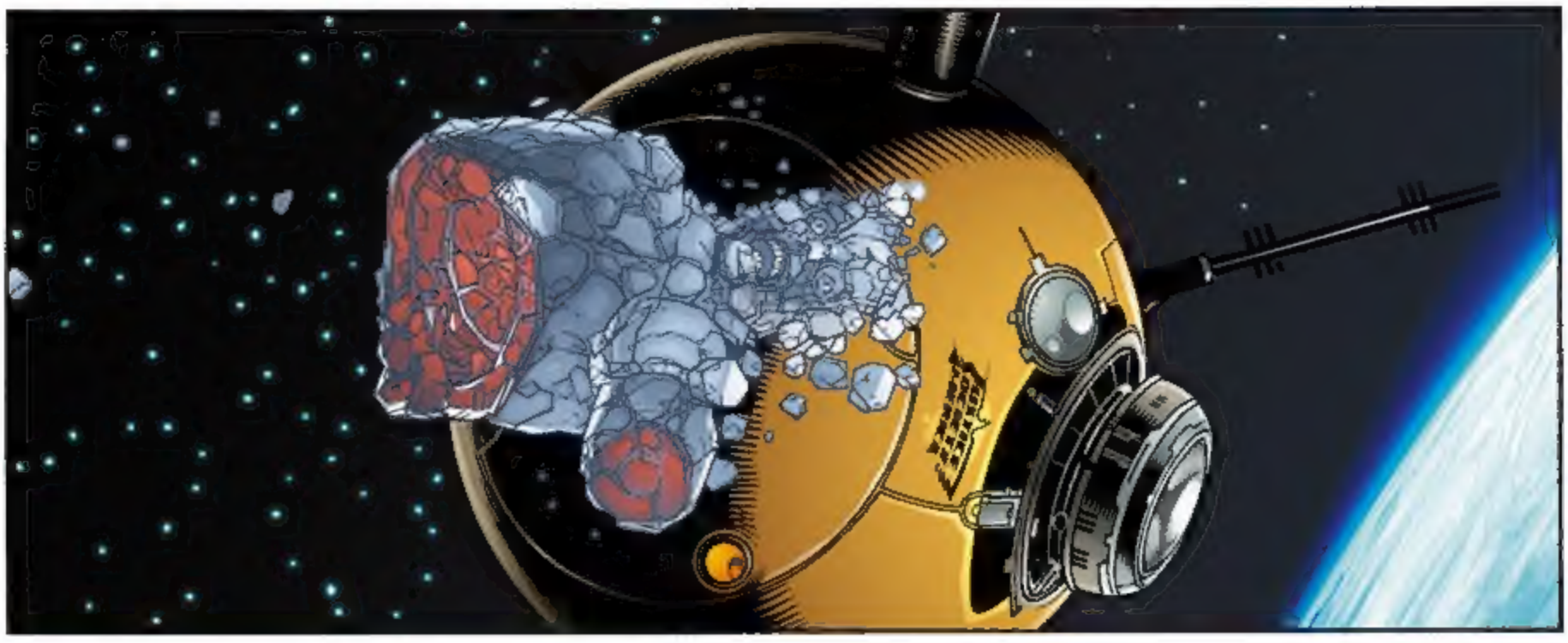

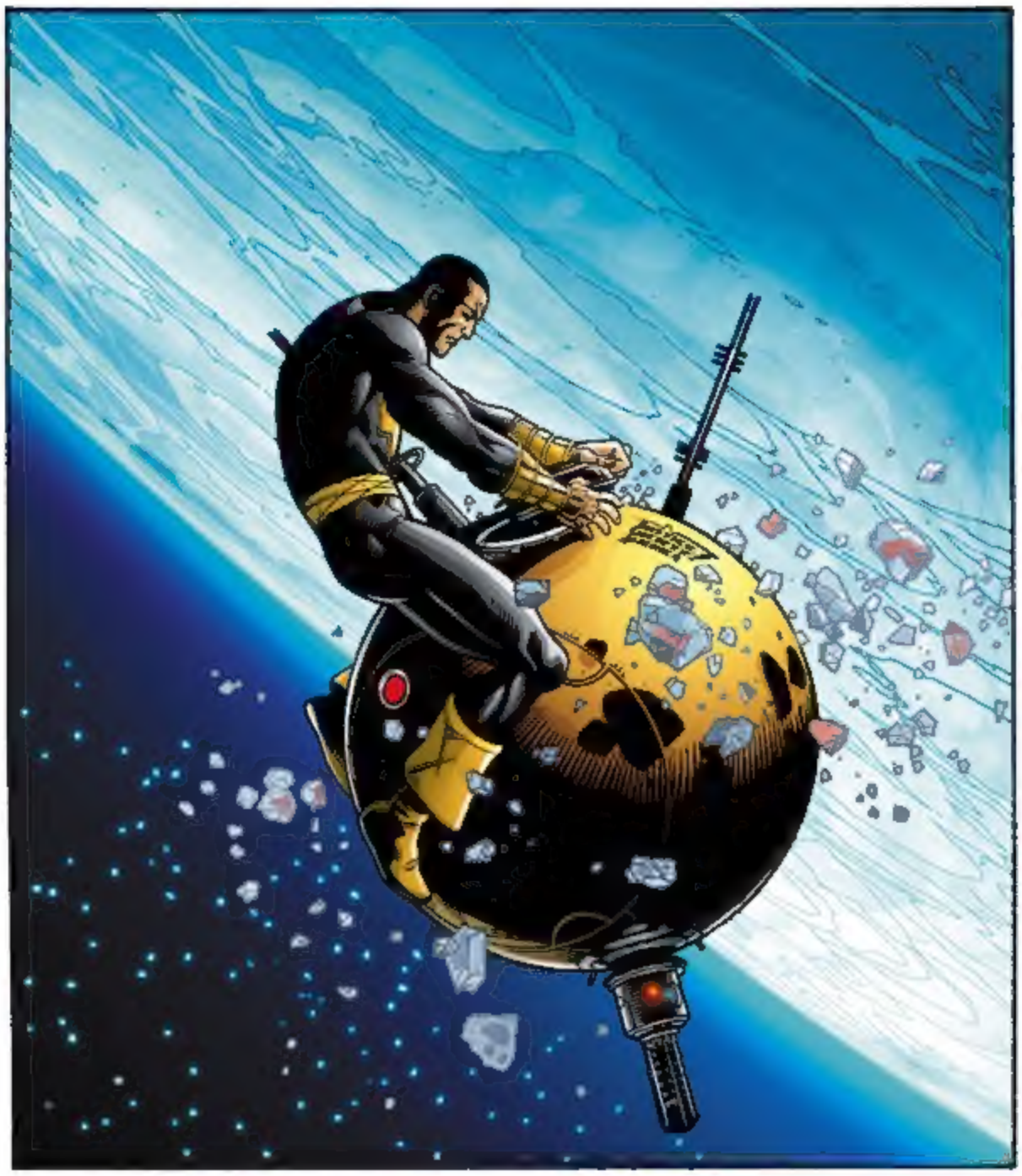

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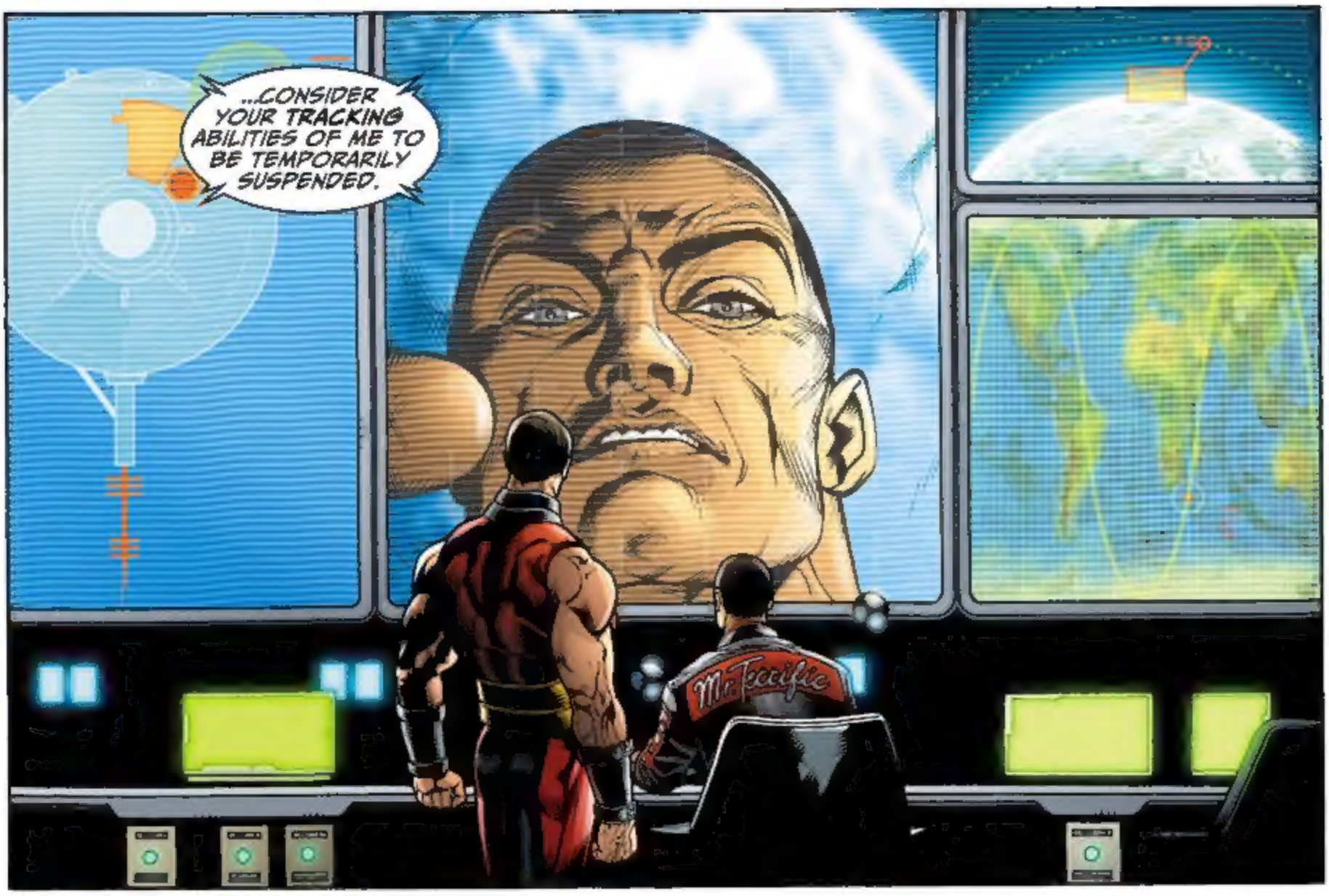

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